

Federal Election Commission

§ 104.14

whichever comes first. A debt or obligation, including a loan, written contract, written promise or written agreement to make an expenditure, the amount of which is over \$500 shall be reported as of the date on which the debt or obligation is incurred, except that any obligation incurred for rent, salary or other regularly reoccurring administrative expense shall not be reported as a debt before the payment due date. *See* 11 CFR 116.6. If the exact amount of a debt or obligation is not known, the report shall state that the amount reported is an estimate. Once the exact amount is determined, the political committee shall either amend the report(s) containing the estimate or indicate the correct amount on the report for the reporting period in which such amount is determined.

[45 FR 15108, Mar. 7, 1980, as amended at 55 FR 26386, June 27, 1990]

§ 104.12 Beginning cash on hand for political committees.

Political committees which have cash on hand at the time of registration shall disclose on their first report the source(s) of such funds, including the information required by 11 CFR 104.3(a)(1). The cash on hand balance is assumed to be composed of those contributions most recently received by the committee. The committee shall exclude from funds to be used for Federal elections any contributions not permissible under the Act. *See* 11 CFR parts 110, 114, and 115.

§ 104.13 Disclosure of receipt and consumption of in-kind contributions.

(a)(1) The amount of an in-kind contribution shall be equal to the usual and normal value on the date received. Each in-kind contribution shall be reported as a contribution in accordance with 11 CFR 104.3(a).

(2) Except for items noted in 11 CFR 104.13(b), each in-kind contribution shall also be reported as an expenditure at the same usual and normal value and reported on the appropriate expenditure schedule, in accordance with 11 CFR 104.3(b).

(b) Contributions of stocks, bonds, art objects, and other similar items to be liquidated shall be reported as follows:

(1) If the item has not been liquidated at the close of a reporting period, the committee shall record as a memo entry (not as cash) the item's fair market value on the date received, including the name and mailing address (and, where in excess of \$200, the occupation and name of employer) of the contributor.

(2) When the item is sold, the committee shall record the proceeds. It shall also report the (i) name and mailing address (and, where in excess of \$200, the occupation and name of employer) of the purchaser, if purchased directly from the candidate or committee (as the purchaser shall be considered to have made a contribution to the committee), and (ii) the identification of the original contributor.

§ 104.14 Formal requirements regarding reports and statements.

(a) Each individual having the responsibility to file a designation, report or statement required under this subchapter shall sign the original designation, report or statement.

(b) Each political committee or other person required to file any report or statement under this subchapter shall maintain all records relevant to such reports or statements as follows:

(1) Maintain records, including bank records, with respect to the matters required to be reported, including vouchers, worksheets, receipts, bills and accounts, which shall provide in sufficient detail the necessary information and data from which the filed reports and statements may be verified, explained, clarified, and checked for accuracy and completeness;

(2) Preserve a copy of each report or statement required to be filed under 11 CFR parts 102 and 104;

(3) Keep all reports required to be preserved under 11 CFR 104.14 available for audit, inspection, or examination by the Commission or its authorized representative(s) for a period of not less than 3 years after the report or statement is filed. (*See* 11 CFR 102.9(c) for requirements relating to preservation of records and accounts.)

(c) Acknowledgements by the Commission or the Secretary of the Senate, of the receipt of Statements of Organization, reports or other statements

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filed under 11 CFR parts 101, 102 and 104 are intended solely to inform the person filing the report of its receipt and neither the acknowledgement nor the acceptance of a report or statement shall constitute express or implied approval, or in any manner indicate that the contents of any report or statement fulfill the filing or other requirements of the Act or of these regulations.

(d) Each treasurer of a political committee, and any other person required to file any report or statement under these regulations and under the Act, shall be personally responsible for the timely and complete filing of the report or statement and for the accuracy of any information or statement contained in it.

[45 FR 15108, Mar. 7, 1980, as amended at 61 FR 3549, Feb. 1, 1996]

§ 104.15 Sale or use restriction (2 U.S.C. 438(a)(4)).

(a) Any information copied, or otherwise obtained, from any report or statement, or any copy, reproduction, or publication thereof, filed under the Act, shall not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for any commercial purpose, except that the name and address of any political committee may be used to solicit contributions from such committee.

(b) For purposes of 11 CFR 104.15, *soliciting contributions* includes soliciting any type of contribution or donation, such as political or charitable contributions.

(c) The use of information, which is copied or otherwise obtained from reports filed under 11 CFR part 104, in newspapers, magazines, books or other similar communications is permissible as long as the principal purpose of such communications is not to communicate any contributor information listed on such reports for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for other commercial purposes.

[45 FR 15108, Mar. 7, 1980, as amended at 61 FR 3549, Feb. 1, 1996]

§ 104.16 Audits (2 U.S.C. 438(b)).

(a) The Commission may conduct audits of any political committee re-

quired to register under 11 CFR part 102 and to report under 11 CFR part 104. Prior to conducting any such audit or investigation, the Commission shall conduct an internal review of reports filed by selected committees to determine whether reports filed by a particular committee meet thresholds established by the Commission for substantial compliance with the Act. Such thresholds may vary according to the type of political committee being reviewed.

(b) The Commission may, upon affirmative vote of four members, conduct an audit and field investigation of any committee which meets the thresholds established pursuant to 11 CFR 104.16(a). All such audits and investigations shall commence within 30 days of such vote except that any audit or investigation of an authorized committee of a candidate shall be commenced within 6 months of the election for which such committee was authorized.

(c) The Commission may, upon affirmative vote of four members, conduct an audit and field investigation of any committee pursuant to 11 CFR 111.10.

(d) All audits and field investigations concerning the verification for and the receipt and use of payments under chapters 95 and 96 of title 26 shall be given priority over any audit or investigation of committees not receiving such payments.

§ 104.17 [Reserved]

§ 104.18 Electronic filing of reports (2 U.S.C. 432(d) and 434(a)(11)).

(a) *Mandatory.* (1) Political committees and other persons required to file reports with the Commission, as provided in 11 CFR Parts 105 and 107, must file reports in an electronic format that meets the requirements of this section if —

(i) The political committee or other person has received contributions or has reason to expect to receive contributions aggregating in excess of \$50,000 in any calendar year; or

(ii) The political committee or other person has made expenditures or has reason to expect to make expenditures